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C. H. R. No. 1
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION
Corn and Hogs Section

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CORN-HOG REFERENDUM BALLOT

*Do You Favor a Corn-Hog Adjustment Program to Follow the 1935 Program Which
Expires November 30, 1935?*

YES	
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NO	
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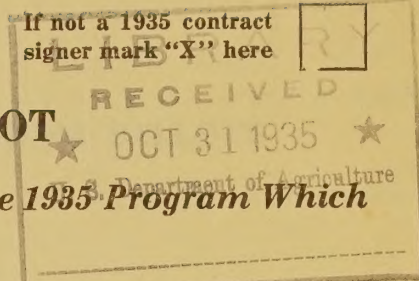
[MARK ONE SQUARE WITH AN (X) SHOWING WHICH WAY YOU WANT TO VOTE]

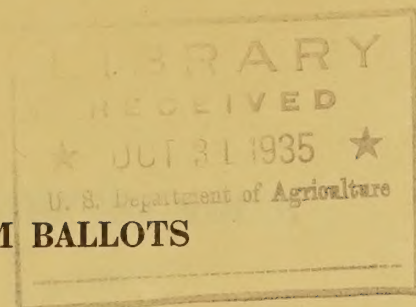
The referendum is intended to provide an opportunity for full and free expression, both for and against a voluntary adjustment program, on the part of all corn and hog producers. If another corn and hog adjustment program is developed it will be of the same general type as the 1935 program. The procedure will be revised, however, to permit the assignment of an equitable corn and hog base to each farm under contract whether or not the farm was covered by a 1935 contract or the signer has previously participated in a corn and hog adjustment program.

AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ADMINISTRATION,

C. C. Davis

Administrator.





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COMMUNITY SUMMARY OF CORN-HOG REFERENDUM BALLOTS

State _____ County _____ Community _____

The question voted on was, "DO YOU FAVOR A CORN-HOG ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM TO FOLLOW THE 1935 PROGRAM, WHICH EXPIRES NOVEMBER 30, 1935?"

Yes

No

Number of ballots cast by 1935 contract signers..... _____

Number of ballots cast by noncontract signers..... _____

TOTALS..... _____

The above is a full, correct, and true account of the ballots issued and voted in the Corn-Hog Referendum, held in the above-indicated community.

Signature of the community committee

{ _____

Date _____, 1935.

(This summary, accompanied by the ballots and the list of voters, must be delivered to the County Allotment Committee not later than 12 o'clock noon, October 28, 1935)

PROCEDURE FOR CONDUCTING THE CORN-HOG REFERENDUM

County meetings.—County meetings should be held not later than the week of October 14. All community committeemen should be present. Community polling places should be selected at this meeting. Arrangements should be made to notify the contract signers of the community educational meetings and the date and place of the Referendum. Plans should also be made at this meeting to give the Referendum full publicity. The county agents and the county allotment committees will be furnished with handbooks and charts to use in the educational work which will outline and explain the economic situation as it bears upon the question of whether or not there should be a future corn-hog program. Small leaflets entitled "Shall Corn-Hog Adjustment Continue?" will be printed and distributed to the counties in sufficient quantity so that every contract signer can have one. These leaflets should be distributed by mail to all owners or operators of corn-hog farms at the time they are notified of the community educational meeting and the date of the Referendum.

Community meetings.—Community meetings should be held not later than the week of October 21. Adequate notice of these meetings should be given the contract signers. The economic situation pertaining to corn and hogs will be explained and its relation to a future corn and hog adjustment program will be discussed.

Who may vote in the Referendum?—All operators and owners (or their official representatives) of farms which produced corn or hogs in 1935 may vote whether they signed 1934 or 1935 corn-hog contracts or not. The community committeemen shall determine the eligibility of the voters and direct the Referendum in the community, under the general supervision of the county allotment committee. Each eligible person is entitled to only one vote regardless of the number of farms he may own or operate, no matter where located. The ballots of contract signers and noncontract signers, however, will be tabulated separately.

The Referendum.—Printed ballots will be distributed by the Corn and Hogs Section. The Referendum will be held on Saturday, October 26, 1935. The community polling places should be open from 8 a. m. to 10 p. m. A suitable container should be provided at

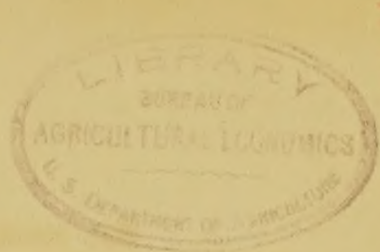
the voting place for the ballots. This container should not be opened before the close of voting on October 26. If the voter cannot cast his ballot in person on October 26, he may place his marked ballot in a sealed envelop, with his name on the outside of the envelop for identification purposes, and mail or deliver it to a community committeeman before election day (by mail or otherwise) for deposit in the ballot box on October 26. An accurate record of the names of all persons who vote in the Referendum must be kept by the community committee. It is suggested that the county committee furnish community committees with a list of 1935 contract signers who are eligible to vote in that community. This will serve as a basic list of eligible voters whose names should be checked as they cast their ballots. These lists will be supplemented by lists prepared by the community committees on election day, containing the names of all noncontract signers who establish eligibility and vote in that community.

No member of a county or community committee shall disclose how any person voted in the Referendum.

Counting and recording ballots.—The community committee shall count the ballots immediately after the close of the polls on October 26, tabulating the votes of contract signers and noncontract signers separately, for entering on the official printed community summary form which will be provided. This summary Form No. C. H.-R-2 properly signed by at least two members of the community committee, and the ballots, shall be in the hands of the county allotment committee not later than 12 o'clock noon, Monday, October 28.

The county allotment committee, as soon as all community returns are received and compiled, shall immediately wire the county totals, tabulated by contract and noncontract signers, to the State office. This tabulation should be confirmed by letter. The State office will wire the official State totals, tabulated by contract and noncontract signers, to the Corn and Hogs Section in Washington not later than Tuesday evening, October 29. This tabulation should be confirmed by letter, giving the compilation by counties.

The ballots, and the official community summaries, shall be kept in the county office for 60 days, subject to examination under instruction of the Secretary of Agriculture.

EXPLANATION OF WALL CHARTSCORN YIELDS HAVE INCREASED FOLLOWING DROUGHT YEARS [CHART No. RC-1.11]

Corn yields have been 21 bushels an acre or less four times since 1882. In 1894 the yield was 20.2; in 1901--18.2; in 1930--20.4; and in 1934--15.8. The average corn yield from 1894 to 1934 was just over 26 bushels. Following the drought of 1894 yields increased to 28.0 and 30.0, respectively, in 1895 and 1896. Following the drought of 1901 yields increased to 28.5 and 26.9 bushels, respectively, in 1902 and 1903. Following the drought of 1930 yields increased to 24.4 bushels in 1931 and 26.8 bushels in 1932. Following the drought of 1934 the corn yield increased to 23.3 bushels in 1935. If past experience is any guide, yields should be average or better in 1936.

WILL LARGE CORN SUPPLIES MEAN LOW PRICES AGAIN [CHART No. RC-1.12]

Acreage planted has the most influence on corn production except when a nation-wide drought reduces yield as in 1934. The planted corn acreage in 1934 was nearly 96,000,000 acres, but the 1934 drought was so severe that over 8,000,000 acres of corn were abandoned. The effect of production on the average farm price of corn will be felt as new corn becomes available this fall. The pile of coins representing farm price for the 1935 crop will be smaller than in 1934. Under normal weather conditions acreage planted to corn in 1936 will determine total production and be a major influence on the price of corn in 1936 and 1937. In 1932 and 1933 an average of 106,000,000 acres of corn were harvested. Average yields on an acreage of this size in 1936 will mean a corn harvest next year of nearly 2-3/4 billion bushels. A supply of this size indicates that the pile of coins representing the farm price of the 1936 crop would be even smaller than that for the 1935 crop.

BIGGER CORN CROP MEANS MORE HOGS [CHART No. RC-1.13]

The full effect of a large corn crop does not show up in the number of hogs marketed until two years after the crop is husked. Two successive years of large supply of corn per hog has an even more marked effect upon hog supplies. Between 1900 and 1935, the years 1906 and 1907, and 1921 and 1922, show the largest increases in corn supplies per hog over the preceding 5-year averages. Large corn supplies in those years had greatly increased hog slaughter by 1908 and 1923.

Corn produced in 1906 and 1907 averaged 54 bushels per hog. This was 10 bushels more per hog, or 23 percent more than the average for the preceding five years. Two years later, in 1908, hog slaughter was 2.1 billion pounds, or 32 percent more than the slaughter in 1906.

Average yields in 1936 on the 1928-32 average corn acreage together with the supply of corn available from the 1935 crop, would boost corn supplies per hog in 1936 and 1937, and would provide a supply of corn per hog more than 50 percent larger than the average supply for the five years before 1936.

The average supply of corn per hog in 1936 and 1937 has been determined as follows: For 1936, the September 1 estimate of the 1935 corn crop divided by the number of hogs expected to be on farms January 1, 1936. It is expected that the number of hogs on farms January 1, 1936 will be about the same as the 37,000,000 head on farms January 1, 1935. The September 1 crop report indicates a corn crop of 2,184,000,000 bushels in 1935. For 1937, the supply of corn per hog has been determined by assuming that, if no corn adjustment program is undertaken in 1936, average yields will be secured on 103,000,000 acres, and the production thus obtained was divided by a number of hogs 30 percent greater than the number expected to be on farms January 1, 1936.

HOG CORN PRICE RATIOS AND HOG MARKETINGS [CHART No. RC-1.7]

The price relationship between corn and hogs at any given time is known as the "hog-corn price ratio." In the past there has been a rather consistent relationship over a period of years between the value of 100 pounds of live hog and the value of about 11.4 bushels of corn. If the price of corn increases because of a reduction in supply or for other reasons, so that less than 11.4 bushels are equal to the value of 100 pounds of live hog, then farmers take the attitude that it will pay to sell more corn as grain and feed less to hogs; consequently, the next hog farrowing is likely to be reduced. On the other hand, when it takes substantially more than 11.4 bushels of corn to equal the value of 100 pounds of live hog, farmers have a tendency to feed more corn to hogs and to breed more sows. In other words, a period in which corn prices are relatively low compared with hog prices causes heavier feeding and breeding of hogs, and is followed shortly by a period of increased receipts and lower hog prices.

This chart illustrates the effect of favorable and unfavorable feeding ratios on hog supplies one to two years later. The light projections above the line in the top section represent periods when corn was plentiful and relatively cheaper than hogs. The black projections indicate periods when corn prices were relatively higher than hogs. About a year after the relation of hog prices and corn prices became favorable to hog feeding, hog marketings tended to increase and hog prices to decline. About the same time after the relation of corn and hog prices became unfavorable to feeding, market supplies began to decrease and hog prices to increase.

Corn prices were very high relative to hog prices for two years beginning in the summer of 1933 as shown by the black projections in the upper half of the chart. In 1934-35 this was due in major part to the small corn supplies and high corn prices growing out of the drought of 1934. But the 1935 corn crop is very large relative to the number of hogs now on farms and the ratio of hog prices to corn prices is now favorable to feeding hogs. If no corn adjustment program is undertaken in 1936, even an average corn crop that year will result in a situation very favorable to greatly increased hog production in 1936-37. With no hog adjustment program at that time, hog marketings in 1937-38 will be very large again if farmers react as in the past to favorable feeding ratios.